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Professor Dercum here presents his notes of an examination of "the brain of an adult Chinaman of the coolie class," comparing it with the only other Chinese brains treated scientifically, viz.: one by Mills and Parker in 1886, three by Moriz Benedikt in 1887, and two by Professor Dercum himself in 1889. He says in conclusion, "These brains, owing probably to the unusual sinuosity of some of the fissures, together with the excessive transverse fissuration, have a physiognomy, as it were, of their own. They certainly, in general appearance, look different from the average white brain that we handle, and very different from the brain of the negro."

A. F. CHAMBERLAIN.

THE LABORATORY OF THE PSYCHOLOGICAL INSTITUTE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF GÖTTINGEN.

By William O. Krohn, Ph. D.

This laboratory is in many respects the best for research work in all Germany. It is peculiar in that it owes its excellent equipment to a liberal gift from a private individual, the state giving but a mere pittance to its support. To the generosity of a former student and friend is Professor Müller indebted for the laboratory of which any university in any land might be justly proud. Not only is the apparatus entirely new, but it is exceedingly well constructed. The rooms so recently set aside by the curator of the University for this laboratory are so well adapted to the purpose of research and of such generous size that the old time objection of "limited space" can no longer be urged against the Psychological Laboratory at Göttingen. Besides a very large auditorium, they have three other large rooms, well fitted for different lines of research work, and a well arranged dark room—indeed this dark room is an ideal one. With the new commodious quarters and their carefully selected equipment, Professor Müller and Dr. Schumann are well equipped for guiding a large number of students in experimental work. Professor Müller's investigations are well known and Dr. Schumann has recently distinguished himself by some important pieces of work. He is also a skillful mechanical contriver and every one of the old standard pieces of apparatus in this laboratory (e. g., the control hammer) has undergone some improvement. He is a very ambitious man, and most worthy of the best success. He certainly has a remarkable future. Like Müller, he aims at accuracy and thoroughness rather than the accomplishing of a large amount of poorly done work.

There is also an interesting historical point connected with the Göttingen Laboratory. It is this: Professor Müller is the successor of the renowned Lotze, and it was Lotze who, in his lectures and published works, gave such an impetus to experimental and physiological psychology. How fitting, then, that there should be such a well equipped laboratory at Göttingen, realizing in a sense the long cherished hopes of the man who stood peerless among his contemporaries in the demand for thorough-going investigation and the application of the scientific method to all classes of facts.

The following is a descriptive list of the chief pieces of apparatus in the laboratory, arranged according to the kinds of experiment to which they are devoted.

I. Psychometric and Reaction Time Researches.

Hipp chronoscope (new pattern) with control hammer, the latter made by Krille. The whole construction embraces many new and ingenious improvements; also a device for the electro-magnetic

tuning fork with double slides and a micrometer screw for adjusting the same. Cost 140 marks.

Electro-Magnetic Signal Hammer. The head of the hammer is kept in equilibrium, not by means of the usual coiled-spring, but by means of a weight so arranged as to drop on a felt pad. This arrangement insures steadiness of the hammer and excludes all noise except the signal. Cost 25 marks.

Sprechcontactapparat (Schalltrichter) with the electro-magnetic contacts necessary to its best use. Cost complete 105 marks.

Ewald's double contact key with attachments, 31.50 marks.

Electrical keys and contacts; two compound contacts (five fold), simple keys and contacts, commentators, etc.

II. *Apparatus for Experiments upon the Time-sense (Zeitsinn)*, including platinum contacts and aluminium wheels. Pneumograph with tambour and attachments. Divers contact circles, a brass circular scale marked off into degrees, minutes and seconds, telephone statives, etc.

For other important apparatus in this line of research, see Schumann's exhaustive study in a recent number of the *Zeitschrift für Psychologie*.

III. *Researches upon the Memory.*

An especially constructed rotation apparatus, very complex in its arrangement.

IV. *For Psycho-physical Investigations.*

A set of eight weight holders, nach Fechner, together with weights (sheets of lead properly cut) belonging thereto. These are constructed after the manner of the originals used by Fechner himself in his experiments with lifted weights.

An arrangement (especially constructed and very ingenious) with aluminium levers for the purpose of recording the curves in experiments with lifted weights.

Apparatus for use in "Fühlraum" investigations, including an arrangement whereby the judgments are recorded in the form of curves drawn upon smoked paper.

Simple "Temperatursinnmesser" Warmtaster [Mischer].

Rotation discs with electrical apparatus for recording the clicks. A large "Rotationapparat" with five adjacent color discs, nach Aubert (Cf. Müller, *Psycho-Physik*). Licht-emdruck nach Exner (*Wiener Ber. Nat. Hist.*, 2 Abtheilung 1868 Band 58 s. 60 ff.) for investigations upon the harmonizing of visual sensations; 280 marks.

An apparatus for fixing the head and holding it firmly, nach Helmholtz. Darkened boxes used in the researches which have to do with light and color, Charpentier's "Kugeln," resonators, etc.

V. *Researches Along Various other Lines.*

Tonometer nach Mono, 180 marks. Spannungsmesser nach Bernstein, 125 marks. Kymographion with continuous paper.

Induktorium, nach Du Bois-Reymond. Electrodes with clasps for the arms. Electrodes with arm bands, and various other electrodes.

VI. *Miscellaneous Apparatus.*

Resistance boxes (Siemens). Galvanometers with spring, nach Kohlrausch. Tuning fork interrupter, nach Helmholtz, with spiral contact. Mariottes bottles and attachments. Water motor. Metronome Rheocord, a fine balance, and various other pieces of minor

importance. This by no means includes the complete equipment. All of the older apparatus which Müller used in the larger number of experiments referred to in his "Psycho-Physik," and in his more recently published magazine articles, are included and should not be forgotten, especially those concerned with his experiments upon sensations of movement and the muscle sense.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, CARDIFF.

Oct. 12, 1892.

My Dear Sir:

The plan of philosophical teaching in this college is to a large extent determined by the requirement of the University of London, which most of the students look to for degrees. The same is true of most of the provincial colleges of England and Wales as well as of University College, London. In our case, however, the advent of a University of Wales will—when it comes—no doubt introduce some changes into the curriculum; especially, it is to be hoped, in the direction of requiring more thorough knowledge of some special department of philosophy from candidates for the higher or M. A. degree.

As matters are arranged at present, I have courses of lectures on psychology, logic and ethics continuing throughout the session of thirty-two weeks. Lectures on psychology are given three times, on logic twice and on ethics once a week. In this way an outline of the three sciences is given; the London syllabus for the B. A. and B. Sc. degrees being kept in view and, to a large extent, followed. Some weeks at the end of the psychology course are, however, commonly saved for the purpose of introducing students to some of the philosophical questions which arise out of psychological questions. In the treatment of psychology, emphasis is laid upon the continuity of mental life. The physiological material admitted is comparatively small in amount; and it is only introduced in so far as it clearly helps to psychological conclusions. In this respect the method approaches what Professor Bain would call "ascetic." So far as my experience goes the method is fitted both to stimulate interest and to guard against the confusion of mental with material facts in which beginners are so apt to get entangled. In the class of ethics, a considerable portion of the time is occupied in explaining and commenting on one or two leading works by English moralists, such as Butler's Sermons on Human Nature and Mills' Utilitarianism.

In addition to these classes, advanced courses of lectures are given on the history of philosophy, with reference to special periods and books which change from year to year, and on the more difficult questions of logic, psychology and ethics, as well as on political philosophy. Both in the ordinary and in the advanced classes, the instruction by means of lectures is supplemented by conversation in the class-room by means of written papers.

I am, my dear sir,

Yours faithfully,

Prof. G. Stanley Hall.

W. R. SORLEY.